

Dear Parishioners,

Today, the third Sunday of Advent, is focussed on the joyful expectation of the coming of Christ. We are exhorted to “rejoice in the Lord, always”!

The First Reading today, Isaiah 35:1-6, 10, gives expression to messianic hope. The exiles in Babylon are told not to be afraid of the journey home across the desert. Their homecoming will be accompanied by a complete transformation of the natural world, recalling the original harmony and abundance of Eden. Redemption is not for isolated individuals but for us all together and indeed, the whole natural world. It puts climate change in a new perspective. As well, the eyes of the blind will be opened, the deaf will hear, the lame will dance and the dumb will sing. The coming of the Lord will bring new energy and new hope.

In the Gospel, Matthew 11:2-11, Jesus' responds to the envoys from John the Baptist by quoting the marvels which he has done. He includes examples from the first reading and adds some more (cleansing of lepers, raising of the dead, and the good news preached to the poor). Jesus is saying the messianic times are here in what I do and asks what does that say about whom I am? The miracles of Jesus are signs of what God wants for us – they are a kind of 'beachhead' of the Kingdom to give us hope.

Jesus admires John the Baptist and praises him. Yet 'the least in the Kingdom of Heaven is greater than he.' They are not necessarily 'greater' in moral stature but in being privileged to be the ones who are invited to the banquet of the Kingdom that Jesus is offering. Jesus is communicating a sense of the incredible richness to which, in God's name, he is calling them. This 'good news' is of a piece with the first Beatitude proclaimed by Jesus at the opening of his great Sermon (Matthew 5-7). The poor and despised are 'blessed' because God has adopted their cause and one day will see that it prevails.

Any farmer or gardener will agree with St James in the Second Reading from his letter today (5:7-10). You can't 'push' plants to grow. You have to let them take their time. So, it is with our waiting for the Lord. The Lord will come in his time not according to our timetable. In the meantime, rejoice always!

Blessings, Greg

Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD) Legislation in WA Australia was announced on Tuesday 10 December 2019.

The following are now available on the Archdiocesan website and on the bulletin stands in our church foyer:

- ⊙ Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD) Response from Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SBD
- ⊙ Catholic Archdiocese of Perth Media Office Statement: Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD)

Another opportunity to share and help this season—

RAFFLE AT ALL MASSES
THIS WEEKEND

Assisting the Salesian Fathers of Don Bosco to support the poor families and especially the malnourished children in India.



10 more days to Christmas!

Have you prepared your heart, your spiritual home, as you have prepared your house for the celebrations of Christmas? Or are you feeling weighed down by the many demands at this time of the year?



Come take a walk with Jesus from now till 12 January 2020. He came to save us/you by entering our world as one with humankind but with all the authority of heaven to restore that which has been broken and lost, to help us carry and lighten our loads. God wishes to shower us abundant blessings if we but open our hearts to receive them.

**THE WAY
Advent and Christmas Daily Reflection 2019
Not too late—only a few copies left at only \$4 a copy
from the Church Piety Stall or parish office.**

Also available for Christmas and the New Year:

- Lions Christmas Cakes: Small 1kg \$13, Large 1.5kg - \$17
- 2020 Columban Calendar: \$8

Christmas Celebrations

Tuesday 24 December CHRISTMAS EVE
Christmas Vigil Mass at 6pm
Christmas Midnight Mass at 12.00am
- Carols 30 minutes before each Mass

Wednesday 25 December CHRISTMAS DAY
Christmas Masses at 7.30am, 9.30am
and 11.30am (Italian Mass)
[No evening Mass]
- Carols 30 minutes before each Mass

All welcome—invite your family and friends!

Thursday 26 December—Boxing Day Public Holiday
8.30am Mass—Feast of St Stephen, the first martyr

Saturday 28 December
6.00pm Mass—Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Sunday 29 December
Masses at 7.30am, 9.30am, 11.30am (Italian Mass) & 6pm
—Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Wednesday 1 January 2020—New Year Public Holiday
8.30am Mass—Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God



**LAST CHANCE TO SEND THE INVITATIONS
LETTERBOX DROP FOR CHRISTMAS**

*“The light shines in the darkness
and the darkness shall not overcome it.”*

Bring the light of Christ to your neighbours by inviting them to our Christmas liturgies, where they will hear the message of hope that is the Christmas story. Take some fliers to deliver to the streets around you. Please cross off the streets you will deliver to from the list of our parish streets in the foyer. Please do not deliver to streets outside our parish boundaries (only streets in our parish are listed). This is one easy way to be the missionary disciples we are called to be - to be Christ's hands and feet.

CALLING ALL CHILDREN—COME AND SING!



6pm Sunday Choir group would like to invite children of the parish to join and sing with the choir for Christmas Carol and Mass singing on the 24 December 6pm Mass.

If you are interested in involving your children, please call Faith on 0426 092 321 or email ijsacramental@gmail.com



The Parish Office and Parish Centre
WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL GROUPS
 from 24 December 2019-27 January 2020
 Office reopens **TUESDAY 28 JANUARY 2020**

1000 Toothbrushes for the Orphans

Many thanks for the hundreds of donated toothbrushes for the orphans in Madagascar. We are getting close to our target of 1000 —feel free to add more to the rattan bag in the Church foyer.



Thank you from Vinnies for responding so generously to our call for toys. God bless all.

MISSION PARTNERS MORLEY

30 years on... 360+ hut restorations and over 340 families have benefitted from IJ parishioner generosity. Bless you all and thanks especially to Fr Greg for his open mindedness in allowing this project to exist and expand.

Please give generously at Christmas Time by making a small donation as they all add up over time into a sizeable gift, to be distributed by Marthandam Integrated Development Society in Tamil Nadu, India, to the poorest of the poor. Why not pay them a visit?



As usual donation envelopes are on the righthand wall of the church entry and can be placed in any collection bag at weekend masses. Happy Christmas.
 Maggie Box

DON'T THROW THAT AWAY!



STAMPS FROM YOUR CHRISTMAS MAIL can be used by The Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart Missionaries in Timor Leste and Peru. **The entire stamped envelope is required, not the individual stamp.** The collection box is located in the church foyer.

UNWANTED SCHOOL SUPPLIES: pens, pencils, textas, files, folders and stationery are all useful and can be dropped off to the parish office or into the Church foyer. What we cannot use, we will pass on to where it is needed.



PARKING FOR CHRISTMAS



Please consider car-pooling or parking further away from the church (perhaps at the school) so that visitors, the elderly and the infirm are able to park without stress this Christmas.

Please also do not park in the emergency bays at the front of the church and be considerate to our neighbours.

We hope to make everyone welcome when they come for Christmas Mass—whether they are regular worshippers or have come because of our letterbox drop invitation. So when you are here for Mass this Christmas, share the joy of this very special season and welcome all with your warmest smile!



PILGRIM STATUE: The Pilgrim Statue will be in the home of Mrs F Savy; 36a Lingfield Way, Morley.

Please note: There will not be a **Holy Hour for Vocations** this month of December. God bless all who have come and prayed with the group this year.

Parish Prayer Concerns

Recently deceased: Nanette Wates, Stella Jarman, Jim Butler, Joshua Thompson, Juile;

Deceased: Frances Carvalho;

Anniversaries: Ray Durel, Jim Carey, Carmela Spiccia, William Henry Pierce Slyth, Paul Christopher Dunning, Bibiana Scully, Steve Colmen;

The Sick of the Parish: Alan Summersett, Lucas Bendotti, Priscilla Grainger, Trudy Berghuber, Margaret Tindale, Glen and Agnes McGuinness, Peter Green, Mary Byrne, Loretta Hicks, and all the sick who are in need of our prayers.

"Lord, come and save us."

Understanding the Liturgy

The Christmas Novena begins on 17 December. At this point, the Advent focus shifts to the Christmas story and the Virgin Mary. These days serve to prepare more directly for the Lord's birth. *GNLYC 42*
 This is the best time to hold carols services and to begin to sing Christmas carols in the liturgy.

All are also invited to join the college community at **Chisholm Carols by Candlelight** this Tuesday 17 Dec 6.30-8.30pm, college oval. Sausage sizzle available for purchase or BYO picnic Bring the family(and grandkids!)

In Our Church

Morning Prayer of the Church: Mon-Fri, 6.40am; Sat 8.00am
 Morning Mass: Mon-Fri: 7am & 9am, Sat and Public Holidays: 8.30am
 Sunday Masses: **6pm (Saturday), 7.30am, 9.30am (Children's Liturgy during school terms), 11.30am (Italian), 6pm (Youth Mass 2nd Sundays)**
 Reconciliation: Saturday 10 - 11am and 5pm - 5.30pm

Perpetual Novena in Honour of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel: Wednesday 7.00pm
 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Friday 9.30 - 10.30am
 Eucharistic Prayer: Friday 6.30 - 7.30pm
 Baptisms, Weddings & Sacraments: Please contact the Parish Office.

Our Parish Team

Parish Priest: Fr. Greg Burke - pp@infantjesusparish.org.au
 Assistant Priests: Fr. John Pallipadan— ap@infantjesusparish.org.au and Fr. Tadgh Tierney - tadgh_t@yahoo.com.au
 Infant Jesus Primary School: Principal - Paul Hille - info@infantjesus.wa.edu.au
 Parish Secretary: Billie Dewitt - secretary@infantjesusparish.org.au
 Reception: Theresa Choo - enquiries@infantjesusparish.org.au
 Youth Co-Ordinator: **Roger O'Neill** - 0434 988 711 | rogersonell@gmail.com
 PREP Coordinator: Sue Goodwin - prep@infantjesusparish.org.au
 Sacramental Coordinator: Faith Rico - sacramental@infantjesusparish.org.au
 Parish Account Officer: Darren Parnell - accounts@infantjesusparish.org.au

Maintenance Manager: Andrew Davini - maintenance@infantjesusparish.org.au
 Admin Assistant: Carol Smith - admin@infantjesusparish.org.au
 Parish Safeguarding Officers: Paul Hille - paul.hille@cewa.edu.au
 Columbarium Committee: Angela Youens - columbarium@infantjesusparish.org.au
 Parish Inclusion Coordinator: Sue Baile - 0497 163 387
 PARISH OFFICE: 47 Wellington Road, Morley 9276 8500
 Office hours: Monday - Thursday 9.30am - 12.30pm
 Facebook: infantjesusmorley Web: www.infantjesusparish.org.au

THIS WEEKEND — 14/15 December—3rd Sunday of Advent

<u>Ministry</u>	<u>Sat 6pm</u>	<u>Sun 7.30am</u>	<u>Sun 9.30am</u>	<u>Sunday 6pm</u>
Acolytes/Altar Ministers	Peter Nguyen-Le	Paul Wachtel	Eamon Delaney	Chris Lambert
Altar Servers	Elysha; Carmen and Alexis	Cyril and Marcus	Conan; Ruben; Leandra and Gabrielle	Tim; Dan; Royce and Alyssa
Proclaimers	Chris T and Thelma	Sally and Tang	Charles Reincastle and Josephine McManus	Fely and Rita
Extr. Ministers Of Communion	Team B—Chris A; William; John T; Chris T; Tracy	Team B—Brian; Noeline; Kerry; Kathleen; Cheryl and Roma	Team C—Evelyn; Linda; Denise; Marlene; Josephine and Aileen	Team A—Ivor; Rita; Marie; Maureen; Luisa or Glenn and Thuy
Hospitality	Roopa and John T	Rose and Mavis	Roma and Patrick	Marie and Maureen
Church Cleaning	Team D—Friday, 20 December @ 10.30am			

PLEASE NOTE: If you are unable to attend on your rostered day, please arrange for someone else in your Ministry to take your place.

NEXT WEEKEND — 21/22 December—4th Sunday of Advent

<u>Ministry</u>	<u>Sat 6pm</u>	<u>Sun 7.30am</u>	<u>Sun 9.30am</u>	<u>Sunday 6pm</u>
Acolytes/Altar Ministers	John Tomeczak	Chris Wray	Josephine McManus	Tung Nguyen
Altar Servers	Brian; Angel; Erin and Aleena	Jamie and Mary	Allan; Akash; Lyn and Jules	Dylan; Marcus and Oliver
Proclaimers	Chris A and Donna Marie	Joanne and Sjen	Mark and Charles	Anna and Alan
Extr. Ministers Of Communion	Team A—Lenna; Betty; John T and Larissa	Team C—Tony; Delia; Brian; Debbie; Carl and Josie	Team A—Annette; Jeanette; Peter; Nevellene; Tanya and Magdalene	Team B—Ivor; Rita; Tristan; Teresa; Josephine and Anna
Hospitality	Carmel and Ann	Mavis and Nancy	Annette and Lucy	Joanne and Fely
Church Cleaning	TO BE ARRANGED			

PLEASE NOTE: If you are unable to attend on your rostered day, please arrange for someone else in your Ministry to take your place.

**Expressions of Interest for Enrolments
at Infant Jesus School**



The family is the first and most important influence in the development of religious faith in the child. Parents who enrol children at our school are asking us to share with them the responsibility of bringing up their children as Christians under the guidance of the teachings of the Catholic Church. The school supports parents in this important role.

Infant Jesus School welcomes expressions of interest for enrolments in all year levels from Pre-Kindergarten to Year Six.

#ExpectGreatThings

Please contact Infant Jesus School (Cheryl) on 9276 1769 or visit the website www.infantjesus.wa.edu.au for information regarding an enrolment pack.

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